

# Pickens Sentinel-Journal

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1907.

The loudest howl about high taxes is usually from those who pay the least. Their taxes beside the poll-tax, is about what a package of Old Glory cheroots would cost.

We have watched our farmer friends and we know that lots of them have bought in recent times lots of labor-saving implements, at a right smart outlay. Now that they are not in use any more this season, they should be oiled, cleaned, repaired and housed, so as to be ready for use next year. If this is done they will be worth from 25 to 50 per cent more next spring than if left out to take all of the winter's weather and will not have to be replaced with new tools.

We are glad to know that the farmers of this county are in the best shape they have been in for several years. With plenty of oats, hay and forage, they are now saving an immense quantity of good fodder. Their corn crop is the best and largest in the history of Pickens county. The cotton crop has come out wonderfully and a fair yield will be gathered. Taking it all in all, the farmers of this, the banner county of the state, are to be congratulated on their era of genuine prosperity.

We sincerely sympathize with the Courier-Journal, of Louisville, in its loss of its plant by fire on the 30th ult. The damage is over \$650,000. The machines and presses were in a reinforced part of the building, therefore they were but slightly damaged. The editorial and reportorial forces stuck to their posts with the hope that the fire might be subdued and they could get out a paper, but they were caught napping and had to be rescued with ladders. The building was five stories high, covering half a block, and was practically gutted by the fire.

This paper is the recipient of many compliments of late. The quality, class and quantity of news dished up comes in for a great share, while the local, editorial and society columns are highly spoken of; but what we consider one of our greatest features is the monthly comic hit, "Ganderbones Forecasts." This will be a regular feature, hereafter, which we have added at much cost, but it is worth the money. We also hope, soon, to have "Uncle Zeke" as a regular contributor to our columns. Now is the time to subscribe. Pay your dollar and get the paper 52 issues for one year.

The presidents of the county associations of the S. C. F. A. & E. U. of A. met in Columbia, Saturday, and voted to instruct President E. D. Smith to vote for a price of 13c for this year's crop of cotton, so far as South Carolina is concerned. The delegates agreed that this should be the minimum price. The matter of price for the cotton-growing states will be arranged at Jackson, Miss., this week by the executive committee. President Smith will also, at this meeting, advocate the use of low grade cotton in the making of heavy duck for cotton covering. Whatever price agreed on should be strictly adhered to, and the county unions should look well to their decisions being obeyed by every cotton seller in their county.

## Susceptible of Learning.

This is an era of education; there are schools on all sides of us; the fowls of the air, the beasts of the field, and the greatest of all instructors—nature, all combine, and tend to teach something to human kind, and how prone we are to disregard the teachings!

Even a rat can be taught to do things and its faculties can be trained until it seems to have reasoning power. The New York American tells of a pet white rat in New Jersey that recently did a "steepie-jack" stunt. Edmund P. Condit, a wealthy resident of Verona, N. J., gave a birthday party in honor of his 9-year-old son, and when he went to raise "Old Glory" to the top of the 30-foot staff the pulley rope broke, and the pole was too light to permit of any of the boys climbing up to the top to pass another rope through the pulley. And here is where the reasoning power and learning of a rat was brought into prominence. One of the children scooted home and soon returned with a pet white rat and a ball of twine. The boy uncoiled the twine, put the loose end in the rat's mouth and sent it climbing up the pole, but when it got to the pulley it was undecided what to do next, so it was called down and another pulley was found, and for ten minutes the young master taught the rat to run back and forth through the pulley with the twine in its mouth. Then he sent the rat up the pole again and this time, without a moment's hesitation the rat tried to get through the pulley with the string in its mouth, but the hole was too small, so the rat deliberately took the string in one paw, passed it through the small opening, caught it with the other paw, then scrambled to the ground with it. A rope was strung through the pulley with the aid of the twine balyard and the flag raised. The rat was rewarded with a large slice of cheese which it munched daintily as it sat on its young master's shoulder.

Teachers seeing this article can comment advantageously on it to their scholars and bring out two qualifications—kindness and patience.

## Cotton Warehouses.

We notice that this county has several good local unions, and a very good county union, but whenever it comes to where money ought to be spent, they are as dumb as oysters. With all of the work and talk by the writers in our farmers' column about warehouses, we have never heard a word said about building one at Pickens. Why is this? Have they no money, or are they afraid to spend their money?

There should be a warehouse at Pickens for the purpose of storing this season's crop. It is not right to force a farmer to sell his cotton on a declining market because he has no place to store his staple, and he is an unfortunate and to be pitied. As the Cotton Association and the Farmers' Union will both place a minimum price on the crop this fall, that minimum price should be adhered to at all hazards, but how can it be when there is no place to store the staple? A fellow can't hold his cotton when he can't have it protected from the weather and the fire.

You had better sell on an open market than to store in the cotton mill warehouses, for they then have access to your staple, use it, and pay whatever price is prevailing on the day you demand your money. You furnish them the rope to hang you with. They have used the cotton and can pay you what they please—not what you want.

In one of the counties of the state the salary of the superintendent of education is \$300 and the salary of the dispenser of that county is \$900 a year. Mr. Education Superintendent didn't do a thing but resign his office and accept the position of dispenser. We don't blame him, his services were for hire and whatever

position offered the most money was the one that got him. Here is a lesson for some of our ranting statesmen who have cried "reform." Some more "refawming" will have to be done, and that mighty quick, or public office will go begging. Almost any man can make more money as a private citizen than as an officeholder at the present salaries paid.

It is really too early to say much about politics yet. The election is yet a year off and many things could happen in that time to injure a person's chances for office. In fact, there is probably no office in the gift of the people of South Carolina, the successful candidate for which has, as yet, announced himself. There may be some, who are feeling the ground carefully, or having their friends do it for them, who, perchance, may be successful, but our candid opinion is that the successful candidates to these offices have not yet announced—or at least they have not run their names in this paper.

Baron Von Pilis has been in Charleston. His object was to wake the old city up and run a regular steamer from Taiste to "the city by the sea." We are glad to note that he has infused some enthusiasm into those people. A line to the east would pay well, and there is no reason for cotton to be shipped to New York for export. Ship it to Charleston. The water rates on imports should put Charleston in the lead as a wholesale distributing depot for this up-country over Atlanta, Richmond and other towns that generally sell goods in this state. We hope soon to see Charleston coming into her own.

## The Real Sufferer.

There occurred in Indiana recently an incident that demonstrates plainly how the public is made to pay for all this reform that is sweeping the country. The incident is thus narrated in the Traffic Bulletin:

"Fieber & Holmes, of Brookville, Ind., retail lumber merchants, is one of the firms that are entitled to reimbursement from the southern rail roads under the recent decision of the supreme court, which holds an advancement in freight rates on lumber, made effective about two years ago, is illegal, and requiring the roads to return to shippers the amount paid by them in excess of the original rate.

"Joseph Fieber, manager of the concern, however, refuses to accept the rebates. He declares that neither his firm or any other is entitled to the rebates because they lost nothing by virtue of the increase in rates. He explains the matter in this wise:

"When the rate was increased 2 cents per 100 feet, or from \$6 to \$12 per car, the shippers immediately met the rate increase with an advance in prices of from 50 to 70 cents per 1,000. Local retail dealers everywhere accepted the raise as a matter of fact, because freight rates had gone up, and they in turn raised the price to the consumers, who in the end paid the increase in the freight charges, and the mills, and the shippers and dealers not only did not lose anything, but they increased their margin of profit on every consignment of lumber they sent out."

The truth of Mr. Fieber's assertions cannot be doubted, but it is striking to have a dealer acknowledge it, just as it is unique to have a man refuse to get anything back from a corporation. Mr. Fieber is right; the public pays for all rebates taken off, just as it pays all fines placed on the heads of trusts and other offending monopolies through their officials. The people pay, also for many of the enormous gifts made by the heads of the trusts to pet institutions. The people pay, truly, but it is strange to see a head of a big firm being so candid about it.—Augusta Chronicle.

## WARNING.

If you have kidney and bladder trouble and do not use Foley's Kidney Cure, you will have only yourself to blame for results, as it positively cures all forms of kidney and bladder diseases.

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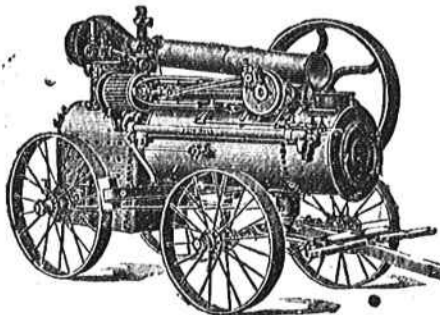
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